

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Norbury et al., US 5,013,473.

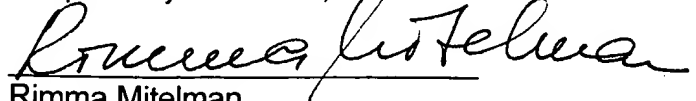
Norbury is cited in paragraph 5 at page 2 of applicant's specification. Norbury discloses capsules wherein the oil/polymer (which may be a polystyrene-polybutadiene-polystyrene block copolymer, e.g. Kraton® 1107) phase forms a core, whereas the shell material is formed from another polymer.

Applicants have amended all independent claims to make clearer that in applicants' invention the continuous phase, which may include the Kraton® polymer, surrounds the discontinuous phase (this amendment is supported at least by paragraph 23 on page 5 of the specification and by the examples of the specification). Thus, the amended claims make clearer that in applicants' invention, the block co-polymer (e.g. Kraton®) forms a shell. By contrast, in Norbury's disclosure, the block co-polymer forms the encapsulated material—the core. In light of the differences between applicants' invention and the Norbury teaching, it is respectfully requested that the anticipation rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be allowed to issue.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



Rimma Mitelman

Registration No. 34,396

Attorney for Applicant(s)

RM/sa
(201) 840-2671